

**CENTER FOR DRUG EVALUATION AND RESEARCH**

**Approval Package for:**

**Application Number : 064128**

**Trade Name : ERYTHROMYCIN PLEDGETS USP 2%**

**Generic Name: Erythromycin Pledgets USP 2%**

**Sponsor : Stiefel Laboratories, Inc.**

**Approval Date: July 3, 1996**

# CENTER FOR DRUG EVALUATION AND RESEARCH

## APPLICATION 064128

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Statistical Review(s)				
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Bioequivalence Review(s)	X			
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**CENTER FOR DRUG EVALUATION AND RESEARCH**

**Application Number   064128**

**APPROVAL LETTER**

JUL 3 1996

Stiefel Laboratories, Inc.  
Attention: William A. Carr, Jr.  
Route 145  
Oak Hill, NY 12460

Dear Sir:

This is in reference to your abbreviated antibiotic application dated March 22, 1994, submitted pursuant to Section 507 of the Federal Food, Drug, and Cosmetic Act for Erythromycin Pledgets USP, 2% (Individually wrapped).

Reference is also made to your amendment of April 3, 1996.

We have completed the review of this abbreviated application and have concluded that the drug is safe and effective for use as recommended in the submitted labeling. Accordingly, the application is approved. The Division of Bioequivalence has determined your Erythromycin Pledgets USP, 2% to be bioequivalent and, therefore, therapeutically equivalent to the listed drug, (Erycette® Topical Solution (Pledgets), 2% Swab of R.W. Johnson Pharmaceutical Research Institute).

Under 21 CFR 314.70, certain changes in the conditions described in this abbreviated application require an approved supplemental application before the change may be made.

Postmarketing reporting requirements for this abbreviated application are set forth in 21 CFR 314.80-81. The Office of Generic Drugs should be advised of any change in the marketing status of this drug.

We request that you submit in duplicate, any proposed advertising or promotional copy which you intend to use in your initial advertising or promotional campaigns. Please submit all proposed materials in draft or mock-up form, not final print. Submit both copies together with a copy of the proposed or final printed labeling to the Division of Marketing, Advertising, and Communications (HFD-240). Please do not use Form FD-2253

(Transmittal of Advertisements and Promotional Labeling for Drugs for Human Use) for this initial submission.

We call your attention to 21 CFR 314.81(b)(3) which requires that materials for any subsequent advertising or promotional campaign be submitted to our Division of Drug Marketing, Advertising, and Communications (HFD-240) with a completed Form FD-2253 at the time of their initial use.

Sincerely yours,

 /S/

7/3/96

Douglas L. Sporn  
Director  
Office of Generic Drugs  
Center for Drug Evaluation and Research

**CENTER FOR DRUG EVALUATION AND RESEARCH**

**APPLICATION NUMBER      064128**

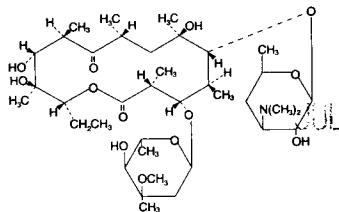
**FINAL PRINTED LABELING**

## Erythromycin Pledgets USP, 2%

For Dermatologic Use Only-  
Not for Ophthalmic Use-

### DESCRIPTION:

Erythromycin Pledgets USP, 2% contain erythromycin, USP, for topical dermatologic use. Erythromycin is a macrolide antibiotic produced from a strain of *Saccharopolyspora erythraea* (formerly *Streptomyces erythraeus*). It is a base and readily forms salts with acids. Chemically, erythromycin is  $C_{37}H_{67}NO_{13}$ . It has the following structural formula:



3 1996

The chemical name for erythromycin is (3*R*,4*S*,5*S*,6*R*,7*R*,9*R*,11*R*,12*R*,13*S*,14*R*)-4-[(2,6-Dideoxy-3-*C*-methyl-3-*O*-methyl-α-*L*-ribo-hexopyranosyl)oxy]-14-ethyl-7,12,13-trihydroxy-3,5,7,9,11,13-hexamethyl-6-[[3,4,6-trideoxy-3-(dimethylamino)-β-*D*-xylo-hexopyranosyl]oxy]oxacyclotetradecane-2,10-dione.

Erythromycin has the molecular weight of 733.94. It is a white or slightly yellow, crystalline powder, slightly soluble in water, soluble in alcohol, in chloroform, and in ether. It is odorless or practically odorless. It has a pH range between 8.0 and 10.5 in a methanol and water solution prepared by diluting 1 volume of a methanol solution, containing 40 mg per mL, with 19 volumes of water.

Each mL of expressible liquid contains 20 mg erythromycin in a base of alcohol (68.5%) (denatured with *tert*-butyl alcohol and denatonium benzoate), propylene glycol and citric acid to adjust pH. Each pledget is filled to contain 0.8 mL of erythromycin topical solution.

### CLINICAL PHARMACOLOGY:

The exact mechanism by which erythromycin reduces lesions of acne vulgaris is not fully known; however, the effect appears to be due in part to the antibacterial activity of the drug.

**Microbiology:** Erythromycin acts by inhibition of protein synthesis in susceptible organisms by reversibly binding to 50 S ribosomal subunits, thereby inhibiting translocation of aminoacyl transfer-RNA and inhibiting polypeptide synthesis. Antagonism has been demonstrated *in vitro* between erythromycin, lincomycin, chloramphenicol, and clindamycin.

### INDICATIONS AND USAGE:

Erythromycin Pledgets are indicated for the topical treatment of acne vulgaris.

### CONTRAINDICATIONS:

Erythromycin Pledgets are contraindicated in those individuals who have shown hypersensitivity to any of its components.

### WARNINGS:

Pseudomembranous colitis has been reported with nearly all antibacterial agents, including erythromycin, and may range in severity from mild to life-threatening. Therefore, it is important to consider this diagnosis in patients who present with diarrhea subsequent to the administration of antibacterial agents.

Treatment with antibacterial agents alters the normal flora of the colon and may permit overgrowth of *Clostridia*. Studies indicate that a toxin produced by *Clostridium difficile* is one primary cause of "antibiotic-associated colitis".



2

After the diagnosis of pseudomembranous colitis has been established, therapeutic measures should be initiated. Mild cases of pseudomembranous colitis usually respond to drug discontinuation alone. In moderate to severe cases, consideration should be given to management with fluids and electrolytes, protein supplementation and treatment with an antibacterial drug clinically effective against *C. difficile* colitis.

**PRECAUTIONS:**

**General:** For topical use only; not for ophthalmic use. Concomitant topical acne therapy should be used with caution because a possible cumulative irritancy effect may occur, especially with the use of peeling, desquamating, or abrasive agents.

The use of antibiotic agents may be associated with the overgrowth of antibiotic-resistant organisms. If this occurs, discontinue use and take appropriate measures.

Avoid contact with eyes and all mucous membranes.

**Information for Patients:** Patients using Erythromycin Pledgets should receive the following information and instructions:

1. This medication is to be used as directed by the physician. It is for external use only. Avoid contact with the eyes, nose, mouth, and all mucous membranes.
2. This medication should not be used for any disorder other than that for which it was prescribed.
3. Patients should not use any other topical acne medication unless otherwise directed by their physician.
4. Patients should report to their physician any signs of local adverse reactions.

**Carcinogenesis, Mutagenesis, Impairment of Fertility:** No animal studies have been performed to evaluate the carcinogenic and mutagenic potential or effects on fertility of topical erythromycin. However, long-term (2-year) oral studies in rats with erythromycin ethylsuccinate and erythromycin base did not provide evidence of tumorigenicity. There was no apparent effect on male or female fertility in rats fed erythromycin (base) at levels up to 0.25% of diet.

**Pregnancy: Teratogenic Effects: Pregnancy Category B:** There was no evidence of teratogenicity or any other adverse effect on reproduction in female rats fed erythromycin base (up to 0.25% diet) prior to and during mating, during gestation and through weaning of two successive litters.

There are, however, no adequate and well-controlled studies in pregnant women. Because animal reproduction studies are not always predictive of human response, this drug should be used in pregnancy only if clearly needed. Erythromycin has been reported to cross the placental barrier in humans, but fetal plasma levels are generally low.

**Nursing Women:** It is not known whether erythromycin is excreted in human milk after topical application. However, erythromycin is excreted in human milk following oral and parenteral erythromycin administration. Therefore, caution should be exercised when erythromycin is administered to a nursing woman.

**Pediatric Use:** Safety and effectiveness of this product in pediatric patients have not been established.

**ADVERSE REACTIONS:**

The following local adverse reactions have been reported occasionally: peeling, dryness, itching, erythema, and oiliness. Irritation of the eyes and tenderness of the skin have also been reported with topical use of erythromycin. Generalized urticarial reactions, possibly related to the use of erythromycin, which required systemic steroid therapy have been reported.

**DOSAGE AND ADMINISTRATION:**

The erythromycin pledget should be rubbed over the affected area twice a day after the skin is thoroughly washed with warm water and soap and patted dry. Acne lesions on the face, neck, shoulder, chest, and back may be treated in this manner. Additional pledgets may be used, if needed. Each pledget should be used once and discarded.

**HOW SUPPLIED:**

Erythromycin Pledgets USP, 2% are available in boxes of individually wrapped pledgets in the following sizes:

30 pledgets - NDC 0145-2478-30

48 pledgets - NDC 0145-2478-48

60 pledgets - NDC 0145-2478-60

Each pledget is filled to contain 0.8 mL of erythromycin topical solution.

Store at controlled room temperature between 15° and 30°C (59° and 86°F).

**CAUTION:** Federal law prohibits dispensing without prescription.



Stiefel Laboratories, Inc.  
Coral Gables, FL 33134

85422 Rev. 1294

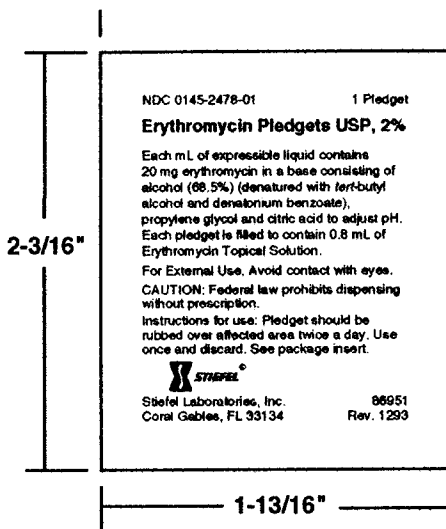


Actual Size  
2-3/16" x 1-13/16"

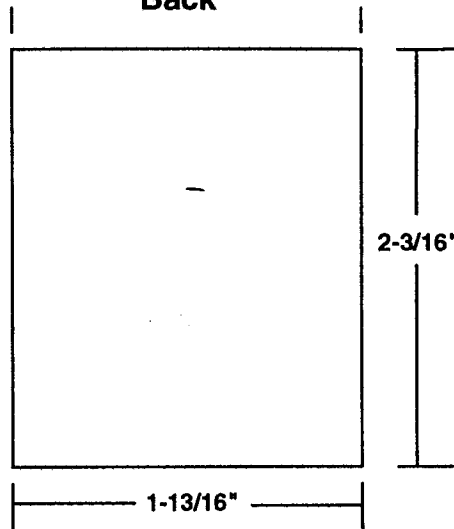


PMS 282

Front



Back



100%

Lot Number and Exp.  
printed on back panel

**Folded Envelope Size**  
**5-3/4" x 2-1/2"**



**PMS 282**

3 1006 APPROVED

NDC 0145-2478-03

PROFESSIONAL SAMPLE

3 Pledgets

## **Erythromycin Pledgets USP, 2%**

Each mL of expressible liquid contains 20 mg erythromycin in a base consisting of alcohol (68.5%) (denatured with *tert*-butyl alcohol and denatonium benzoate), propylene glycol and citric acid to adjust pH. Each pledget is filled to contain 0.8 mL of Erythromycin Topical Solution.

For External Use. Avoid contact with eyes.

CAUTION: Federal law prohibits dispensing without prescription.

Instructions for use: Pledget should be rubbed over affected area twice a day. Use once and discard. See package insert.

86967 Rev. 1293



Stiefel Laboratories, Inc.  
Coral Gables, FL 33134

086858



# Erythromycin Pl

03

03-842-5410 DCN

86858  
Rev. 1293

NDC 0145-2478-30

## Erythromycin Pl

For External Use.

Avoid contact with eyes.

Caution: Federal law prohibits dispensing without prescription.

See package insert for complete product information.

Important: Each pledget is individually wrapped. If pledget is unwrapped or there is an opening in the wrapper, do not use and return entire contents to your pharmacist.

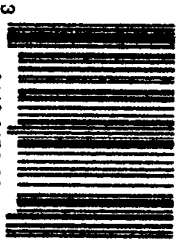
Store at controlled room temperature, 15°-30°C (59°-86°F).

Each mL of expressible liquid contains 20 mg erythromycin in a base consisting of alcohol (68.5%) (denatured with *tert*-butyl alcohol and denatonium benzoate), propylene glycol and citric acid to adjust pH. Each pledget is filled to contain 0.8 mL of Erythromycin Topical Solution.



Stiefel Laboratories, Inc.  
Coral Gables, FL 33134

Stock No. 2478-3

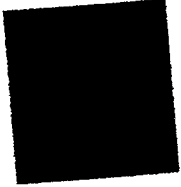


3  
0145-2478-30  
1

Instructions for use:

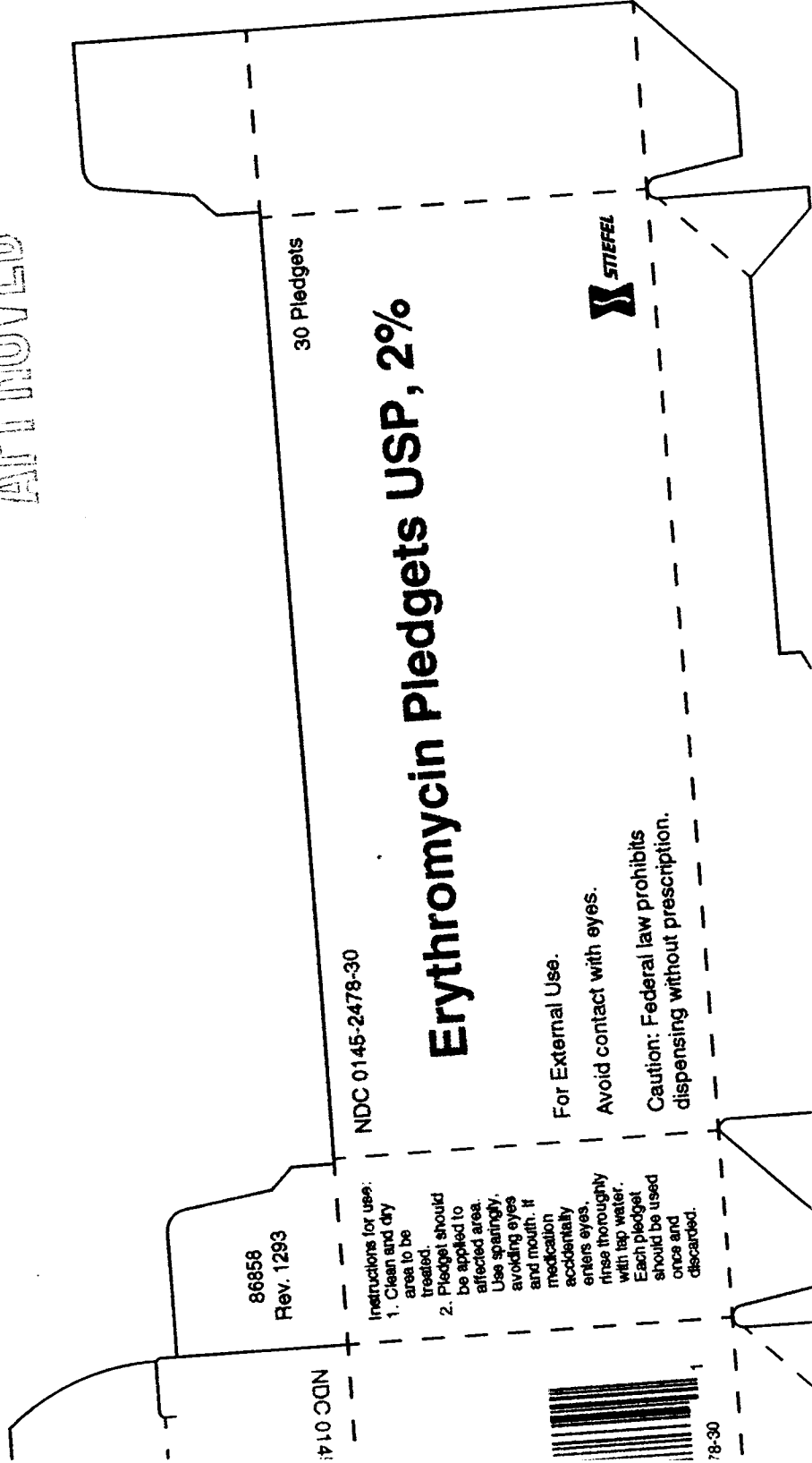
1. Clean and dry area to be treated.
2. Pledget should be applied to affected area. Use sparingly, avoiding eyes and mouth. If medication accidentally enters eyes, rinse thoroughly with tap water. Each pledget should be used once and discarded.

2



PMS 282

APPROVED



86858

Rev. 1293

NDC 014

NDC 0145-2478-30

30 Pledgets

Instructions for use:

1. Clean and dry area to be treated.
2. Pledget should be applied to affected area. Use sparingly. Avoiding eyes and mouth. If medication accidentally enters eyes, rinse thoroughly with tap water. Each pledget should be used once and discarded.

For External Use.

Avoid contact with eyes.

Caution: Federal law prohibits dispensing without prescription.

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78-30

H: 2-3/8" x W: 1-13/16" x L: 5-5/8"

086900



# Erythromycin Pledgets USP, 2%

60 Pledgets

NDC 0145-2478-60

See package insert for complete product information.

**Important:** Each pledget is individually wrapped. If pledget is unwrapped or there is an opening in the wrapper, do not use and return entire contents to your pharmacist.

Store at controlled room temperature, 15°-30°C (59°-86°F).

Each mL of expressible liquid contains 20 mg erythromycin in a base consisting of alcohol (68.5%) (denatured with *tert*-butyl alcohol and denatonium benzoate), propylene glycol and citric acid to adjust pH. Each pledget is filled to contain 0.8 mL of Erythromycin Topical Solution.



Stiefel Laboratories, Inc.  
Coral Gables, FL 33134

Stock No. 2478-6

86900  
Rev. 1283

## Instructions for use:

1. Clean and dry area to be treated.
2. Pledget should be applied to affected area. Use sparingly, avoiding eyes and mouth. If medication accidentally enters eyes, rinse thoroughly with tap water. Each pledget should be used once and discarded.



3 0145-2478-60 8

NDC 0145-2478-60

# Erythromycin

For External Use.

Avoid contact with eyes.

Caution: Federal law prohibits dispensing without prescription.

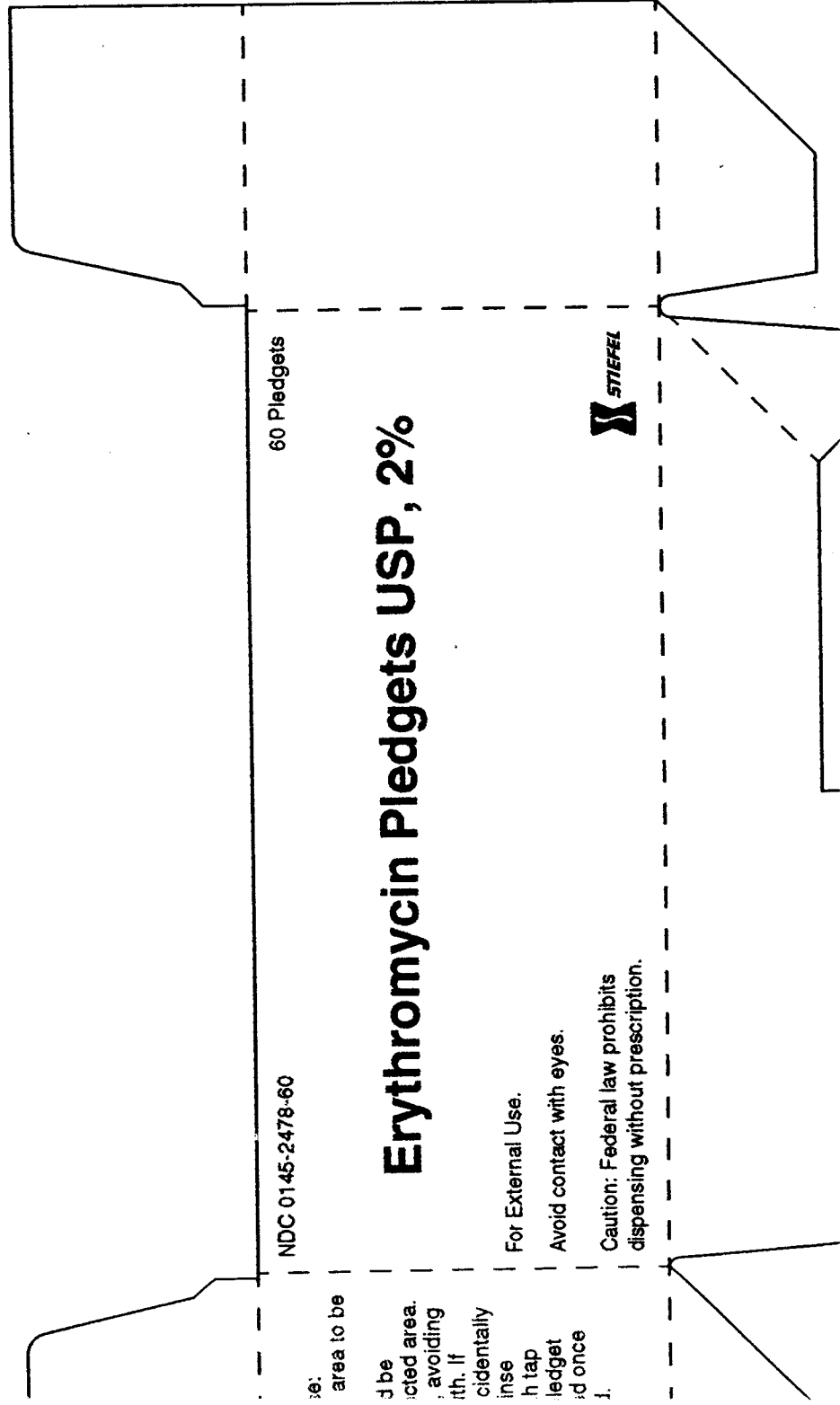


PMS 282

2

0145-2478-60

60 Pledgets



NDC 0145-2478-60

60 Pledgets

# Erythromycin Pledgets USP, 2%

For External Use.

Avoid contact with eyes.

Caution: Federal law prohibits  
dispensing without prescription.



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086881



## Erythromycin Pledgets USP, 2%

48 Pledgets

NDC 0145-2478-48

See package insert for complete product information.

Important: Each pledget is individually wrapped. If pledget is unwrapped or there is an opening in the wrapper, do not use and return entire contents to your pharmacist.

Store at controlled room temperature, 15°-30°C (59°-86°F).

Each mL of expressible liquid contains 20 mg erythromycin in a base consisting of alcohol (68.5%) (denatured with tert-butyl alcohol and denatonium benzoate), propylene glycol and citric acid to adjust pH. Each pledget is filled to contain 0.8 mL of Erythromycin Topical Solution.



Stiefel Laboratories, Inc.  
Coral Gables, FL 33134

Stock No. 2478-4

86881  
Rev. 1283

Instructions for use:  
1. Clean and dry area to be treated.  
2. Pledget should be applied to affected area. Use sparingly, avoiding eyes and mouth. If medication accidentally enters eyes, rinse thoroughly with tap water. Each pledget should be used once and discarded.



3 0145-2478-48 6

NDC 0145-2478-48

## Erythromycin Pled

For External Use.

Avoid contact with eyes.

Caution: Federal law prohibits dispensing without prescription.

PMS 282

APPROVED

3 1000

NDC 0145-2478-48

48 Pledgets

# Erythromycin Pledgets USP, 2%

For External Use.

Avoid contact with eyes.

Caution: Federal law prohibits dispensing without prescription.



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REMOVED

# Erythromycin Pledgets USP, 2%

NDC 0145-2478-07  
PROFESSIONAL SAMPLE

(20 x 3) 60 Pledgets

See package insert for complete product information.

Important: Each pledget is individually wrapped. If pledget is wrapped or there is an opening in the wrapper, use and return entire contents to your physician.

Store at controlled room temperature, 15°-30°C (59°-86°F).

Each mL of expressible liquid contains 20 mg erythromycin in a base consisting of alcohol (68.5%) (denatured with tert-butyl alcohol and denatobium benzoate), propylene glycol and citric acid to adjust pH. Each pledget is filled to contain 0.8 mL of Erythromycin Topical Solution.

## Instructions for use:

1. Clean and dry area to be treated.
2. Pledget should be applied to affected area. Use sparingly, avoiding eyes and mouth. If medication accidentally enters eyes, rinse thoroughly with tap water. Each pledget should be used once and discarded.



SRI  
SRI Laboratories, Inc.  
Coral Gables, FL 33134

Stock No. 2478-7

For Extremities:  
Caution: For

86910  
Rev. 1293

NDC 0145-  
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Actual Size

W: 3" x L: 6-3/16"



JUL 3 1996

MS 282

APPROVED

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NDC 0145-2478-07  
PROFESSIONAL SAMPLE

(20 x 3) 60 Pledgets

## Erythromycin Pledgets USP, 2%

For External Use. Avoid contact with eyes.

Caution: Federal law prohibits dispensing without prescription.

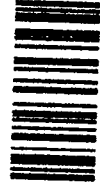
Stock No. 2478-7



STIEFEL



0145-2478-07 3



**CENTER FOR DRUG EVALUATION AND RESEARCH**

**APPLICATION NUMBER      064128**

**CHEMISTRY REVIEW(S)**

1. CHEMIST'S REVIEW NO. 3
2. AADA# 64-128
3. NAME AND ADDRESS OF APPLICANT

Manufacturing Facility:

August C. Stiefel Research Institute, Inc.  
Route 145  
Oak Hill, NY 12460

Corporate Offices:

Stiefel Labs  
255 Alhambra Circle  
Suite 1000  
Coral Gables  
Florida 33134

- |  |   |
|--|---|
| 4. <u>AF NUMBER</u><br>N/A                     | 5. <u>SUPPLEMENT(s)</u><br>N/A                |
| 6. <u>PROPRIETARY NAME</u><br>N/A              | 7. <u>NONPROPRIETARY NAME</u><br>Erythromycin |
| 8. <u>SUPPLEMENT(s) PROVIDE(s) FOR:</u><br>N/A |   |

9. AMENDMENTS AND OTHER DATES:

Firm::

- |  |          |
|--|----------|
| 1. Original submission   | 3/22/94  |
| 2. Fax communication: proposed responses to deficiency letter.   | 12/6/94  |
| 3. Telecon re: proposed response to deficiency letter.           | 12/16/94 |
| 4. Telecon to discuss prospective response to deficiency letter. | 10/24/95 |
| 5. Major amendment   | 12/5/95  |
| 6. Fax regarding turbidimetric assay                             | 11/27/95 |
| *7. Minor amendment response to Def. Letter #2                   | 4/3/96   |

**\*Subject of current review**

FDA:

- |     |  |          |
|-----|--|----------|
| 1.  | Acknowledgement letter                       | 4/20/94  |
| 2.  | Bio review: biowaiver request granted.       | 7/24/94  |
| 3.  | Labeling review                              | 10/25/94 |
| 4.  | Chem. Review No. 1                           | 8/30/94  |
| 5.  | Deficiency letter No. 1                      | 11/29/94 |
| 6.  | Telecon re: 11/27/95 fax                     | 12/6/95  |
| 7.  | Chem. Review No. 2                           | 2/27/96  |
| 8.  | Deficiency letter No. 2                      | 3/14/96  |
| 9.  | EER - acceptable                             | 3/14/96  |
| 10. | Labeling review (Review cycle #3 - FPL) - OK | 4/16/96  |

10. PHARMACOLOGICAL CATEGORY  
Antibiotic

11. HOW DISPENSED  
Pledgets saturated with 2%  
erythromycin solution

12. RELATED IND/NDA/DMF(s)

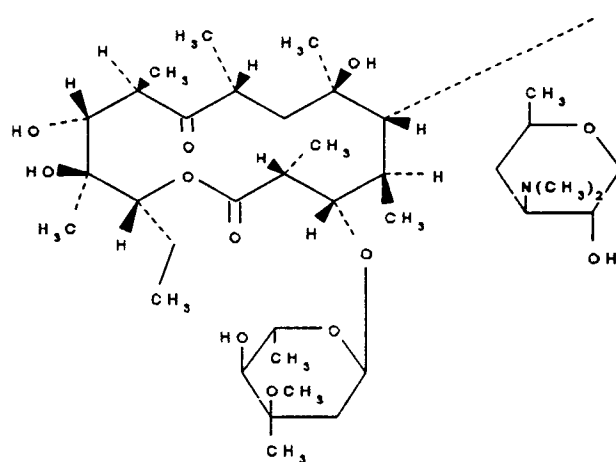
(b)4 - Confidential Business

13. DOSAGE FORM  
Topical solution

14. POTENCY  
2%

15. CHEMICAL NAME AND STRUCTURE

Erythromycin USP  
 $C_{37}H_{67}NO_{13}$ ; M.W. = 733.94



(3R\*,4S\*,5S\*,6R\*,7R\*,9R\*,11R\*,12R\*,13S\*,14R\*)-4-[(2,6-Dideoxy-3-C-methyl-3-O-methyl-α-L-ribo-hexopyranosyl)-oxy]-14-ethyl-7,12,13-trihydroxy-3,5,7,9,11,13-hexamethyl-6-[[3,4,6-trideoxy-3-(dimethylamino)-β-D-xyllo-hexopyranosyl]oxy]oxacyclotetradecane-2,10-dione. CAS [114-07-8]

16. RECORDS AND REPORTS

N/A

17. COMMENTS**A. Synopsis of First Two Review Cycles:**

The exhibit batch prepared in support of the original application was unacceptable for several reasons detailed in the earlier review. For the response to our deficiency letter of 11/24/94, the firm prepared a new exhibit batch and generated requisite supporting data on this batch.

The firm attributed the poor stability of the earlier batch to low pH and reduced the amount of citric acid used to adjust the pH from 0.04% to 0.005%, an eight-fold reduction. Aside from the amount of citric acid used to adjust the pH, the remaining components and composition are identical, and the manufacturing process has not changed. The new exhibit batch (Manufacturing lot #A0725) was (b)(4) and this lot was shipped in its entirety to the contract packager.

The firm now assays for the important process-related substances/degradants but no specifications have been set. The firm commits to monitoring for these substances and to setting specifications at some point when sufficient experience and data have been collected.

**B. Third Cycle - Minor Amendment Response:**

Following the major amendment which was reviewed the second cycle, there remained but minor deficiencies. These are listed below along a summary of the firm's response:

**Deficiency #1**

1. Although you indicate that the stability of this drug product is likely related to pH, and the pH of the exhibit batch is controlled within a very narrow range (Batch A0725, page 33 of the December 5, 1995 submission), the instruction for this procedure as presented for the proposed production batch log on page 23 is much less specific. Please discuss.

**Response:**

The firm agreed with this point and revised that step in the manufacturing instructions to include appropriate in-process-testing for pH. A pH Test and Specification was also added. The revised batch record and tests and Specification were provided (Attachment 1).

**Acceptable**

**Deficiency #2**

2. The stability protocol and stability data reporting sheets are generally adequate for the  $25^{\circ}\text{C} \pm 2^{\circ}\text{C}/60\% \text{ R.H.}$  studies but details regarding the additional studies are not included in either case:
  - a. Please incorporate details of these studies in the protocol and stability data reporting forms and present the study results/protocols separately for each study.
  - b. Although you indicate in the protocol for the  $25^{\circ}\text{C}$  study the stations and tests to be performed, several appear to be missing, *e.g.* "Assay and Minimum Volume" was not found for any of the stations.

**Response:**

The requested additional details were provided and the section describing "Storage Conditions" was correspondingly expanded as were the respective protocols. The Stability Reports were also revised to include all stations and tests. These revisions are found in Attachment 2.

**Acceptable****Deficiency #3:**

3. Although we acknowledge that you have presented appropriate environmental impact data, you should formally request a categorical exclusion as per 21 CFR 25.24.

**Response:**

The formal request for categorical exclusion was provided in attachment 3.

**Acceptable****Deficiency #4:**

4. We acknowledge your commitment to establish Specifications for related substances in the antibiotic drug substance and drug product based upon your methods development work with (b)4 - This commitment should also include Specifications for degradants in the stability program. Also, please provide any additional available (b)4 results to date.

**Response:**

The firm provided a commitment to monitor and establish specifications for (b)4 - Confidential Business and for any other degradants that may be identified during the ongoing methods development. The results will be communicated to FDA on an annual or more frequent basis via supplementation of the approved application.

Additional (b)4 results to date were provided in Attachment 2.

**Acceptable**



**C. Process Summary:**

**(b)4 - Confidential Business**

The product for marketing under this application is as individually wrapped pledgets; these are then placed into cartons of 30, 48, or 60. Alternatively, the individually wrapped pledgets may be placed, three at a time, into an envelope, and then 20 of these envelopes are packaged in a carton thus offering 60 pledgets in this configuration.

**D. EER, Bio, Labeling, Sample Analysis, Other:**

An acceptable EER was received 3/14/96.

The firm has requested a biowaiver, approved 7/5/94.

A labeling review Approval Summary was published 4/16/96.

Sample Analysis pending

18. **CONCLUSIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS**

This application is approvable pending receipt of acceptable sample analysis.

19. **REVIEWER:**

R. C. Adams

**DATE COMPLETED:**

4/26/96

**CENTER FOR DRUG EVALUATION AND RESEARCH**

**APPLICATION NUMBER      064128**

**BIOEQUIVALENCE REVIEW(S)**

JUL 5 1994

Erythromycin Pledgets  
2% Topical Solution  
Form 6, #64-128  
Reviewer: J. Lee  
64128W.394

Stiefel Laboratories, Inc.  
Coral Gables, Florida  
Submission date:  
March 22, 1994

Review of a Request for Waiver

The sponsor has submitted an application for erythromycin pledgets, 2% topical solution and has requested a waiver of evidence of in-vivo bioavailability under 21 CFR 320.22 (b)(3)(i).

Section 320.22 (b)(3)(i) states that the Agency may waive in-vivo requirements for a drug product if the product (i) is a solution for application to the skin, an oral solution, elixir, syrup, tincture, or similar other solubilized form.

There are also parts (b)(3)(ii) and (b)(3)(iii) which were not cited by the sponsor:

(ii) contains an active drug ingredient in the same concentration and dosage form as a drug product that is the subject of an approved full NDA; and

(iii) contains no inactive ingredient or other change in formulation from the drug product . . . that may significantly affect absorption of the active drug ingredient or active moiety.

The drug product is used for the topical control of acne vulgaris and is Coded AT in the Therapeutic Equivalence List.

Listed below is a formulation comparison of the sponsor's product vs the brand product, Erycette® (R.W. Johnson).

	<u>Stiefel</u> per ml	<u>Erycette</u> per ml
Erythromycin (as the base)	2.1%	2%
Alcohol		
Propylene Glycol		
Denatonium Benzoate		
Citric acid (to adj. pH)		

(b)4 - Confidential  
Business

Comment:

1. The test formulation contains no inactive ingredients that would significantly affect the absorption of the active moiety.

Recommendation:

1. The Division of Bioequivalence finds that the information submitted by Stiefel Labs demonstrates that erythromycin pledget, 2% topical solution falls under 21 CFR 320.22 (b)(3)(i)(ii)(iii) of Bioavailability/Bioequivalence Regulations. The Division of Bioequivalence recommends that the waiver of an in-vivo bioavailability study be granted. Stiefel's erythromycin pledget 2% topical solution is deemed bioequivalent to Erycette Swab, 2% topical solution manufactured by R.W. Johnson.

/S/

6/29/94

J. Lee  
Division of Bioequivalence  
Review Branch II

RD INITIALED RPAITNAIK  
FT INITIALED RPAITNAIK

/S/

Concur:

/S/

Date:

7/5/94

Ramakant Mhatre, Ph.D.  
Acting Director, Division of Bioequivalence

JLee/jl/05-31-94

cc: NDA #64-128 (original, duplicate), HFD-630, HFD-600 (Hare),  
HFD-655 (Patnaik, Lee), HFD-130 (JAllen), HFD-344 (Vish), Drug  
File, Division File